

**Tribal and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**Revised 2025 Forecast and Management Objective for**  
**Hood Canal Natural Coho Salmon**

At the March Council meeting, as provided for in Amendment 14 and pursuant to rules and procedures established under U.S. v. Washington, the Washington Department and affected Puget Sound Treaty Tribes notified the Council of management objectives that they have established for Puget Sound Chinook and coho salmon for 2025. After the March meeting, an error was discovered in the Hood Canal natural coho forecast produced for 2025 which changed the status and corresponding management objective for the management unit.

The pre-season forecast value for Hood Canal natural coho reported in Pre-season Report 1 (March 2025 Agenda item E.2 Supplemental Attachment 3) and the STT summary document (March 2025 Agenda item E.2.a Supplemental STT Report 1) was 18,996 (rounded to 19.0 thousand in summary tables). After the March meeting, an error in the calculation for a bias correction that is applied to the forecast was discovered. Re-running the forecast method with the proper bias correction applied resulted in a forecast of 19,957. This increase in the forecast means that the forecast exceeds the breakpoint for critical status under the co-manager Comprehensive Coho Plan and for low status under the coho chapter of the Pacific Salmon Treaty. This means that a total exploitation rate of 45% is allowable based on the updated stock status.

The table of coho objectives presented at the March meeting is shown below with the Hood Canal values updated (Table 1). In recognition that the updated abundance is still relatively close to the breakpoint of 19,545, the Hood Canal co-managers plan to implement more conservative fisheries with a total exploitation rate that is well below the allowable ceiling of 45%. This conservative approach will result in escapement of Hood Canal natural coho higher than what would result from planning and implementing fisheries to the full allowable ceiling.

Table 1. Revised 2025 Puget Sound Primary Natural Coho Management Unit abundances and exploitation rate Ceilings.

Puget Sound Stocks	2025 Adult Forecast (Ocean Age 3)	2025 Assigned FMP Status	Total ER Ceiling
Strait of Juan de Fuca	14,038	Low	40 %
Hood Canal	19,957	Low	45 %
Skagit	66,276	Normal	60 %
Stillaguamish	27,473	Normal	50 %
Snohomish	59,000	Low	40 %